

WASHED DOWN THE POISON WITH GLASS OF WHISKY

The Coroner's Jury Verdict Is That Wright's Death Was Case of Deliberate Suicide.

London, Jan. 28.—"Suicide" was the verdict passed by the coroner's jury today in the closing chapter of the tragedy of Whitaker Wright. His death was caused by poisoning by cyanide of potassium. The jury found that Wright was sane and that there was not the slightest doubt that his death was due to a most deliberate suicide. From the evidence at the inquest it was shown that Wright had determined to take his own life in the event of adverse verdict, and that he went to court with a cyanide tablet in his possession, while in his hip pocket was a new revolver, fully loaded and even cocked.

After the sentence Wright went to the lavatory while the tipstaff in attendance on him remained outside. There he swallowed the tablet, returning to the consulting room washed down the poison with whisky and water and died. One of the last things Wright said was, "This is British justice."

The small coroner's court at Westminster was so crowded that Whitaker Wright, Jr., son of the dead man, had to stand up throughout the proceedings. He and other witnesses in the main bore out the facts already cabled. Neither the son nor the deceased's closest friends, so they testified today, ever heard Wright even intimate that he contemplated suicide.

His solicitor, George Lewis, Jr., said the deceased all along implicitly believed that he would be acquitted, or that, at the worst, he only contemplated a disagreement of the jury. Even after his sentence, Wright showed only indignation. In talking with Mr. Lewis, Mr. Eyre, one of his sureties, and Mr. Waters, the accountant of the London & Globe Corporation, Wright said:

"I really think I am the most composed of you all."

As regards an appeal, Wright said

he would do exactly as he was advised.

Asked if some one had not better telephone the verdict to Mrs. Wright, Wright said:

"No; there is plenty of time for that."

Taking out his watch and chain Wright handed them to Mr. Eyre, saying:

"I shall not have any use for this in that place," meaning the prison. "I give it to you, Eyre. Keep it for me." This was all that occurred.

After Wright had taken the poison, holding a glass in his hand and still sipping its contents, he said:

"Waters, give me another cigar."

Mr. Waters took up Wright's cigar case, which was lying on the table, and Wright deliberately cut the end off a cigar and struck a match. Just as he was going to light the cigar, Wright flung the match from him, sank back unconscious and died without uttering another word.

The doctor who was called in to attend Wright said he had not detected any smell or sign indicating poison, but at the official analysis Dr. Freyburger, who conducted the post-mortem examination, testified, from every organ of the body exuded the peculiarly penetrating smell of prussic acid, and that there was not the slightest doubt that Wright's death was due to that poison in its cyanide of potassium form. The deceased had not suffered from any other disease, there were no lesions of the brain and the heart was healthy, though twice the normal size.

It transpired at the inquest that Wright was only searched after his death. A tablet found in his pocket did not appear to be poisonous. The revolver was discovered by the police after the law court officials had previously searched Wright. The coroner commented on this and indicated that action probably would be taken by the higher authorities.

RECONCILED TO FATE HE AWAITS HIS DIRE REWARD

Salem, Jan. 28.—Harry D. Egbert, who has been condemned to death on the gallows at the state penitentiary at noon tomorrow for the murder of John D. Saxon, in Harney county on October 4, 1903, is bearing up well under the strain, and it is predicted by the officers of the institution that he will continue to bear up until the end, for he is determined to "die game." It is very evident, however, that the strain is beginning to tell on him as the day of his execution approaches.

To see and talk to him, however, one cannot tell that he is very much affected over his position, and he asserts that he is thoroughly reconciled to his fate and has determined to suffer death for his crime without complaint or faltering. He is very precise and particular in his dress and toilet.

When seen yesterday and asked if he had anything further to say in regard to himself or his crime, he said: "No I do not, think of anything new to say to the people, and the details of my crime are already pretty well known to every child in the state, and I think the less said of them the better. The Lord knows that I am sorry for what I have done, and I am ready to suffer the penalty for it."

"No, drink was not responsible for the crime which I committed, and I do not see how that impression has ever been gained. I do wish, however, that you would hold me up as an example before the people, and tell them, for God's sake, not to follow in my footsteps, but to live honest and

happy lives, and above all to keep out of bad company. I realize that my life has been ill-spent, and I repent of it deeply, but there is no use of repenting now, as it is too late. Had I my life to live over again I assure you that it would be an altogether different story, and I would not be occupying the cell of a condemned man living under the shadow of the gallows. No, I have no further hope of escaping the gallows. I have naught to do now but to prepare to die."

According to his story had it not been for the woman whom he says that he loved with all the devotion that a man can endure for a woman, he would not have been in his present plight, and that instead he might have only been sent to the penitentiary for a term of a few years for the crime of horse stealing, on which charge the officers wanted him when he committed the deed for which he must pay the penalty of death. He says that he had been living with the woman at Burns for some time as her husband, and that he thought the world and all of her. When he came into the house one day he was surprised and angered to find another man there with her. His first impulse was to shoot the man, but his better sense prevailed and he allowed him to go unmolested. The domestic felicity of the household having once been disturbed under such circumstances, it was not an easy matter to patch up, and the consequences were that he and the woman quarreled almost continuously.

JAMES JEFFRIES' BRAVE ACT SAVES MAN AND WIFE

New York, Jan. 28.—Champion heavyweight James Jeffries has distinguished himself by stopping a runaway team in Central Park and saving from probable serious injury the man and wife were being carried rapidly toward a narrow bridge spanning a narrow gorge through the drive way.

Jeffries, approaching in a cab, saw the runaway and sprang to the ground. He seized the near horse by the head and was dragged along some distance but managed with his free hand to grip the horse's nostrils, checking it quickly into submission. The woman in the sleigh was slightly hurt, but Jeffries was uninjured.

VAN HOUTEN ON TRIAL FOR MURDER OF RIVAL

Portland, Jan. 28.—Face to face with a charge of murder in the first degree, David G. Van Houten sits on trial before Judge Sears and a jury in the state circuit court today.

Beside him sits his old gray-haired father, who came all the way from Montana to see his son whom he had not met for years, only to find him behind the bars of a prison, accused of a crime the penalty for which is death on the gallows.

There was visible a strong sentiment of sympathy for the accused man in the dense crowd that thronged the courtroom, and when a recess was taken at noon the spectators, most of whom are friends of the man on trial, gathered about him, anxious to shake his hand and speak a word of hope. Fair women were among the throng and some of these, with tears in their eyes, grasped the hand of the man who had shot down Albert Young.

The treatment received by the accused man at the hands of the crowd was not unlike that accorded a great man on a felicitous occasion, and the scene much resembled a reception.

West Side Notes.

Frank Sweeney is in Portland this week.

Mrs. J. W. Babbidge, of Astoria, is visiting in Hammond.

The old mill at Warrenton is in operation again, sawing lumber for the new structure.

Mrs. W. A. Williams has returned from Oregon City where she went before Christmas.

Mr. Titus, of John Days, was spending a few days with his friend, Ernest Dawson, last week.

Mrs. Herman Kables has gone to Portland, where she will visit her parents for a few days.

A. R. Cyrus was in Warrenton yesterday in the interests of the A. O. U. W. lodge of that place.

Mrs. D. K. Warren and Mrs. C. R. Higgins have gone to San Francisco where they will remain for at least two months.

Mrs. Wallingford and daughter Edna have returned from a visit to Forest Grove, Mrs. Wallingford's former place of residence.

Mrs. M. Herin and Mrs. Fastabend, of the Astoria Degree of Honor, were in Warrenton Wednesday evening installing the new officers of the local lodge.

Mrs. Sabine and daughters, Anna and Ethel, formerly of Warrenton, but now residents of Astoria, were in Warrenton Wednesday evening visiting with friends.

On the evening of February 13, St. Valentine's eve, the young ladies of Warrenton will give a party in Warren's hall that promises to be the grand finale of the social season until after the lenten season.

A dancing party was given in Warren's hall last Saturday evening which was largely attended and greatly enjoyed. The pleasant affair was managed by Ernest Dawson. An orchestra, under the capable leadership of Ardie Strom, furnished excellent music for the occasion.

Her Age, Please?

(New York Commercial)
The richest woman in Cuba is said to be Senora Rosa Ahren, a handsome, intelligent, aristocratic-looking widow worth \$2,000,000 with no incumbrance. She lives in a fashionable suburb of Havana, was born in Cuba, as was her late husband, and all her interests and sympathies are entirely non-Spanish. She is very democratic in manner and takes a great interest in a society originated by American women to aid the poor. Her plantation consists of 150,000 acres of magnificent coffee land.

Plenty of Lump Coal.

Our last cargo of Australian lump coal is the best coal for stoves yet brought to Astoria. It is of the famous "Helton" variety. You can have "lumps" if you want them. By bringing your orders direct to us you will be sure to get the genuine article and not a poor substitute. Free delivery. Phone 1961. Office corner Ninth and Commercial.

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Revolution Imminent.

A sure sign of approaching revolt and serious trouble in your system is nervousness, sleeplessness, or stomach upsets. Electric Bitters will quickly dismember the troublesome causes. It never fails to tone the stomach, regulate the kidneys and bowels, stimulate the liver and clarify the blood. Run-down systems benefit particularly and all the usual attending aches, vanish under its searching and thorough effectiveness. Electric Bitters is only 50 cents, and that is returned if it doesn't give perfect satisfaction. Guaranteed by Chas. Rogers, druggist.

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The Big Continuous Show

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ONLY A SOLDIER BOY

Change of play and specialties at each performance

Reserved Seats 30 cents
Gallery 20 cents

Seat sale opens Monday morning at Griffin's book store.

PERSONAL MENTION

Fred Brown, Jr., returned last night from Portland.

E. W. Wright, commercial editor of the Oregonian, is in the city.

Captain E. P. Parker returned last night from a Portland visit.

W. W. Ridehalgh returned last night from a trip to Portland.

Gus Lindberg has returned from Portland, where he made a brief visit.

W. H. Barker returned yesterday from a brief business trip to the sound.

D. B. Smith, superintendent for the I. R. & N. Co., came over from Ilwaco yesterday on the Nahcotta.

Mrs. Herman Wise and children left Portland Wednesday night for San Francisco, where they will visit for the next two months. A short stay will be made at Chico, where Mrs. Wise has sisters residing. Mr. Wise, who accompanied his family to Portland, returned home last night.

Mrs. Lucy Palmer, Miss Ethel Palmer and Master Chester Palmer will leave Monday for Bozeman, Mont., where they will hereafter reside, and where Fred Palmer is connected with the John Kopp Company. Mrs. Palmer has been a resident of the east end for a number of years.

MASQUERADE

Of the Sons of Herman Given February 11.

The annual masquerade ball of the Sons of Hermann will take place in Ford & Stokes hall on Thursday evening, February 11. Nine handsome and durable prizes will be given this year. The committee in charge of the ball has engaged the finest music in the city and the usual good time is assured. The prices of admission are as follows:

Gent maskers\$1 00
Lady maskers 50
Spectators 50
Children 25

Tickets can be had from any of the members. An additional prize will be given this year to one of the spectators. Coupons will be given with each ticket and of course the lucky one gets the prize.

Pears'

People have no idea how crude and cruel soap can be. It takes off dirt. So far, so good, but what else does it do.

It cuts the skin and frets the under-skin; makes redness and roughness and leads to worse. Not soap, but the alkali in it.

Pears' Soap has no free, alkali in it. It neither reddens nor roughens the skin. It responds to water instantly; washes and rinses off in a twinkling; is as gentle as strong; and the after-effect is every way good.

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BIG REDUCTION SALE DURING MONTH OF JANUARY
Hats, Skirts, Shirtwaists, Underwear. All kinds of Ladies' and Children's furnishing goods. Hair switches and pompadors.

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ASTORIA, OREGON

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, administratrix of the estate of Martin Empe, deceased, has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Clatsop county, her final account as such administratrix and the same has been set for hearing at the County Court Rooms at Astoria, Clatsop county, Oregon, Tuesday, March 1, A. D. 1904, at the hour of 10 o'clock, a. m. All persons interested in said estate are hereby notified to then and there appear and show cause if any exist, why said final account should not be allowed, the administratrix discharged and her bondmen exonerated.

Dated this 19th day of January, 1904

JUSTINA EMPE,
Administratrix of the estate of Martin Empe, deceased.

Can't be perfect health without pure blood. Burdock Blood Bitters makes pure blood. Tones and invigorates the whole system.